

*SOC 4004 Caught in the Act*

NEW YORK, NEW YORK  
TIMES

M - 843,267  
S - 1,419,329

MAR 26 1975

## FOX AWARD GIVEN TO N.Y.U. STUDENT

Movie on C.I.A. Wins \$5,000  
in New Event for Young

There were days, splicing filmstrips in the editing labs at N.Y.U. that Drew Denbaum dreamed he'd be discovered by a big-time movie producer. Now, he has been.

Twentieth-Century Fox has awarded Mr. Denbaum, a third-year graduate student at New York University's Institute of Film and Television, first prize in its Student Screenplay Award Competition. In addition to receiving \$5,000, Mr. Denbaum, who competed against students from 20 film schools throughout the country, may have his script, "Caught in the Act," about the Central Intelligence Agency, produced.

This is the first year Twentieth-Century Fox has sponsored the competition, which is an experimental effort to encourage promising student screen writers.

### Film Described

"This film is very topical but it is not a polemic," said Mr. Denbaum, who worked in several film production houses after graduating from Yale in 1971.

It is about a young man, Alex Sargent, a "big man on campus" at Yale, who, because of his own ambitions and the urgings of his father-in-law, gets involved in the C.I.A. He is a romantic individual, witty and self-confident. But as the plot develops and he becomes a part of the Bay of Pigs operation, his self-image is destroyed.

"If it's produced," said Mr. Denbaum, "it will establish me as one of the writers in the business. Directing will come later."

Like many of the 107 other graduate students at N.Y.U.'s film school, at 40 East Seventh Street, Mr. Denbaum describes himself as a "film buff." And like the others he has studied the films of the masters while receiving professional training in production skills, camera technology, sound, editing, writing, and acting.

### Degree Awarded

The three-year graduate program, which attracts students from all parts of the country as well as from abroad, grants a Master of Fine Arts degree. The Institute of Film and Television, which is part of N.Y.U.'s School of the Arts, also offers courses to 500 undergraduates, who learn to work with videotape, 16-mm. and 35-mm. film in darkrooms, screeningrooms and recording studios.